

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Primrose Hill Church of England Primary Academy	
Address	School Crescent, Lydney, GL15 5TA
School vision	
<p>Growing a Brighter Future Together The vision is from Jeremiah 29:1 "For I know the plans I have for you," declared the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School leaders and staff are deeply committed to serving this community. Consequently, the Christian vision is realised as seeds of goodness and aspiration grow so that people flourish.</li> <li>• The school builds effectively on its Church of England foundations. This is significantly strengthened through partnerships with the Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust (DGAT) and the local Anglican church. As a result, Primrose Hill Primary Academy is a beacon of hope and compassion in the local community.</li> <li>• The school curriculum reflects its Christian vision for pupils to grow in every way. Therefore, they gain a sense of self-awareness, confidence and achievement.</li> <li>• There is a rich culture of questioning and debate within an established atmosphere of respect for different opinions. Consequently, pupils think deeply about ethical issues and make choices that improve the lives of others.</li> <li>• School leaders have developed a carefully considered curriculum for religious education (RE). It equips pupils with a high level of understanding about a range of religions and worldviews.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deepen the school's understanding of spirituality. This is to enable pupils and adults to immerse themselves in rich experiences that further enhance their spiritual flourishing.</li> <li>• Develop creative ways of worshipping. This is to ensure that pupils and adults benefit from a wider variety of Christian worship that inspires spiritual growth.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>The school's Christian vision encapsulates the whole-hearted desire of leaders and staff for pupils to have a fulfilling future. They are nurtured in an atmosphere of high expectation, opportunity and ambition. Consequently, pupils develop an understanding of themselves and their unique potential. School leaders have established a powerful image of climbing a mountain so that they can reflect on their progress. It enables them to understand that attaining a brighter future requires effort and determination. Christian values of perseverance and courage ensure that they are equipped with skills to face disappointments and challenges. Staff know their pupils well and encourage</p>	

individuals to keep going on their personal learning journey. As a result, they experience success and grow in confidence. Pupils learn that it is important to follow the 'right path', not necessarily the easiest way through life. Christian values of respect, trust, friendship and responsibility remind them of how they should treat others. Adults and pupils help each other along the way, especially through difficult times. Primrose Hill's capacity to live out its Christian vision is strengthened by being part of a family of schools. DGAT's vision, 'Life in all its Fullness', is taken from the Bible. It reinforces a mutual intent to provide a rich and holistic life-long education for everyone. Leaders and staff benefit from training and a sharing of ideas that enable them to grow successfully as professionals. An innovative school offer, called 'Life in all its fullness', motivates pupils to get involved in various extra-curricular activities. As a result of this thoughtfully designed programme, they become more ambitious, curious, creative, self-aware and community conscious. There is shared joy as parents and carers are involved in 'Life in all its Fullness' projects with their children. This initiative has inspired and benefitted other schools. Leaders and governors ensure that the Christian vision is at the heart of all that they do. There are effective processes for them to listen to the views of staff and pupils. Consequently, the school is continually moving forward to give the hope of a bright future for everyone.

School leaders are committed to providing learning opportunities that prepare pupils for a bigger world of diversity and possibility. The Christian vision urges people to work hard to achieve future goals. Pupils are encouraged and motivated in their endeavours, especially through effective reward schemes. They feel confident to learn and grow within an inspirationally purposeful environment. There is a well-established culture of questioning and debate. This enables pupils to respect and learn from those with different viewpoints. Furthermore, staff seek out resources that reflect the diversity of a bigger world. In such ways, pupils consider ethical issues of prejudice and justice deeply. Additional opportunities abound which engenders an eagerness to explore future possibilities. Pupils become increasingly self-aware as they are given time to be still to reflect on their own feelings and learning. They recognise moments of wonder and beauty, as well as painful moments of physical and emotional hurt. However, an understanding of spirituality is underdeveloped. School leaders are eager to consider more ways of expressing spiritual experiences so adults and pupils can flourish more fully.

Collective worship is a unique time when pupils and some staff come together to reflect on the school's Christian values. A key Bible story is associated with each value. For example, the story of Jesus calming a storm on Lake Galilee is associated with trust. Such links help pupils to deepen their understanding of the 'right path'. For example, knowing that Jesus taught his followers to show compassion, they encourage and care for others. Pupils particularly value weekly worship times, led by members of the Anglican church, when Bible stories are acted out. These occasions are especially inspirational and impact on them making choices that brighten the lives others. There is a familiar pattern to daily worship times which is comforting, such as the words of welcome and shared school prayer. Nevertheless, the lack of variety limits opportunities to grow spiritually through collective worship. School and church share a sincere commitment to serve the local community and each other. Devoted church members regularly volunteer to help at Primrose Hill which particularly enriches the musical aspect of worship. Pupils and staff champion how special they feel during worship times in the local church. Families also delight in being able to celebrate festivals such as Harvest and Mothering Sunday together. Pupils have helped to create prayer spaces in school and in the church. These are a source of spiritual encouragement for each other. In such ways, the community shares in the Christian vision of growing together.

This is a school family that understands the strength in working together with consideration and kindness. In such a way, people want the best present and future outcomes for each other. A profound sense of trust and understanding, engendered by leaders, enables staff to flourish. In turn, they actively promote the wellbeing and self-esteem of each pupil. They are tenacious in securing

bright futures for those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). A culture of living well together means that pupils resolve differences with respect and forgiveness.

The school's prayer by John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, encourages everyone to do all the good that they can. This becomes a reality as pupils are empowered to make a difference in their local community and in the wider world. Inspired by their own beautiful school surroundings, they develop deep concerns for issues such as pollution and climate change. Pupils put their feelings of injustice into action in a variety of ways. For example, by litter-picking in the playground, local forest and town, or raising money to help those in areas of conflict.

A very carefully considered curriculum for RE has been established by school leaders. It ensures that pupils have concentrated time to delve deeply into subject areas. Furthermore, learning in RE is enhanced because of the rich culture of respectful debate, curiosity and questioning. Consequently, lessons provide pupils with high levels of knowledge and understanding about a range of religions and worldviews. They remember previous knowledge because the curriculum is designed to revisit prior learning. RE is enriched with visits to places of worship, as well as welcoming visitors from a variety of faiths. This enables pupils to understand what religion means to people of faith. School leaders ensure that RE is of high importance. It contributes to the Christian vision as it prepares pupils for a bright future full of opportunity and an understanding of diversity.

The school shines brightly on Primrose Hill, as flames of hope and aspiration are ignited for everyone.

The inspection findings indicate that Primrose Hill Church of England Primary Academy is living up to its foundations as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	18 April 2024	URN	139643
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	212
Diocese	Gloucester		
MAT/Federation	Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust (DGAT)		
Headteacher	Emma Mignaud		
Chair	Tim Davies		
Inspector	Angela Daniel	No.	757